

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please add the following at page 1, after the title and before line 1:

**BACKGROUND**

1. Field of the Invention

Please add the following at page 1, between lines 4 and 5:

2. Related Art

Please add the following at page 2a, between lines 13 and 14:

**BRIEF SUMMARY**

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, beginning at line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

Preferably, a further sequence number may be assigned to each packet representing the order of transmission of the packet, under the control of a selected protocol, within a sequence of packets conveying a particular layer of encoded data frames. Such a sequence number may be used to improve packet ordering efficiency through identifying whether all packets expected within a particular packet sequence have been received and that the next packet for decode must lie in another packet sequence.

Please add the following at page 4, between lines 29 and 30: